

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A positive active material for a lithium secondary battery of which the surface is coated with a metal oxide, wherein the positive active material compound comprises  $\text{Li}_a\text{Ni}_{1-x-y}\text{Co}_x\text{M}_y\text{O}_2$  and M is a metal selected from the group consisting of Al, Mg, Sr, La, Ce, V, and Ti, and  $0 \leq x < 0.99$ ,  $0.01 \leq y \leq 0.1$ ,  $0.01 \leq z \leq 0.1$ , and  $1.00 \leq a \leq 1.1$ .

Please cancel claims 4-8 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please add the following new claims 9-14:

9. (New) The positive active material of claim 1, the surface is coated with the metal oxide by a dip coating method.

10. (New) A positive active material for a lithium secondary battery of which the surface is coated with a metal oxide, wherein the positive active material compound comprises  $\text{Li}_a\text{Ni}_{1-x-y}\text{Co}_x\text{M}_y\text{O}_{2-z}\text{F}_z$  and M is a metal selected from the group consisting of Al, Mg, Sr, La, Ce, V, and Ti, and  $0 \leq x < 0.99$ ,  $0.01 \leq y \leq 0.1$ ,  $0.01 \leq z \leq 0.1$ , and  $1.00 \leq a \leq 1.1$ , wherein the metal oxide coated on the surface of the compound is an oxide of a metal selected from the group consisting of Mg, Si, Al, K, Ca, Na, and B.

11. (New) The positive active material of claim 10, wherein the thickness of a layer coated on the surface of the compound is 1 to 100 nm.

12. (New) A positive active material for a lithium secondary battery of which the surface is coated with a metal oxide, wherein the positive active material compound comprises  $\text{Li}_a\text{Ni}_{1-x-y}\text{Co}_x\text{M}_y\text{O}_{2-z}\text{S}_z$  and M is a metal selected from the group consisting of Al, Mg, Sr, La, Ce, V, and Ti, and  $0 \leq x < 0.99$ ,  $0.01 \leq y \leq 0.1$ ,  $0.01 \leq z \leq 0.1$ , and  $1.00 \leq a \leq 1.1$ .

13. (New) The positive active material of claim 12, wherein the metal oxide coated on the surface of the compound is an oxide of a metal selected from the group consisting of Mg, Si, Ti, Al, V, Co, K, ~~Ca~~, Ca, Na, and B.

14. (New) The positive active material of claim 12, wherein the thickness of a layer coated on the surface of the compound is 1 to 100 nm.